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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:)
Mua et al.)
)
Serial No.: to be determined)
Filed: to be determined)
)
Earliest Priority Filing Date: 09 September 2002)
International Filing Date: 28 August 2003)
PCT Application No.: PCT/US2003/027087)
)
For: A PROCESS FOR REDUCING NITROGEN)
CONTAINING COMPOUNDS AND LIGNIN IN)
TOBACCO)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Preliminary Amendment 'A'

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed is a Preliminary Amendment for the application referenced above. Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.